

IN THE

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Applicant(s) :

Serial No. : 09/

Filing Date : September 28, .

For : MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS

Hon. Commissioner of Patents

and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

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*[Handwritten signature]*

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-29, without prejudice and add the following claims:

30. A medical/surgical instrument comprising biocompatible bioinert material.
31. A medical/surgical instrument characterized in that it is coated with biocompatible bioinert material.
32. The medical/surgical instrument according to claim 30, wherein the biocompatible bioinert material is high-strength technical ceramic.
33. The medical/surgical instrument according to claim 30, wherein the biocompatible bioinert material is a ceramic comprising at least one of an aluminum oxide, zirconium oxide and silicon nitride.
34. A medical/surgical instrument according to claim 30, wherein the biocompatible bioinert material is a YTZP or ZTPA ceramic.
35. A medical/surgical instrument according to claim 30, wherein it is formed as scalpel, scissors, saw, drill, thread cutting tool, centering tool, drill-jig bushing, or as templet.
36. A tool made of biocompatible bioinert material.